

SAVANNAH, MISSOURI.

NEWS IN BRIEF.

PERSONAL.

—Gen. Thos. G. Ellis, of Hartford, and three others, have been appointed by the American Society of Civil Engineers to investigate and report upon the late Northampton disaster.

—Mr. and Mrs. Sartoris sailed from New York on May 23 for their future English home, being attended as far as Sandy Hook by the bride's parents and a large number of friends.

—Congressman Mellish, of New York, who went crazy over the study of the financial question, died at his home a few days ago.

—The death is announced of Gen. Croxton, United States Minister to Bolivia.

—The death is announced of Rear-Admiral Shubrick, aged 83.

—Martin O. Walker, an old and wealthy citizen of Chicago, died last week, after a protracted illness. He was known throughout the Northwest as the pioneer stage proprietor in the ante-railway period.

—J. Edgar Thompson, President of the Pennsylvania Railway Company, died at his residence in Philadelphia on the 28th ult.

GENERAL.

—The War Department has announced the death of Gen. Dyer in a complimentary order.

—The Pennsylvania and Virginia Episcopals, in conventions assembled, oppose ritualism.

—The Southern Methodist Conference has adopted stringent temperance measures.

—The semi-centennial meeting of the Baptist Bible and Publication Society was held recently at Washington.

—The Police Commissioners of New York city are charged with "gross inefficiency, great negligence and flagrant neglect of law," by an Aldermanic Committee.

—A co-operation mining company, with a capital of \$10,000, has been formed in Vermillion county, Ill.

—An unavoidable accident occurred on the Washash railroad, a short distance from Washash, Ind., by which the wheel of a passenger car burst, throwing the car filled with passengers into the ditch.

—The Supreme Court of Utah has decided to recognize B. L. Duncan, the appointee of the Governor, as Territorial Marshal, instead of McAllister, elected by the Legislature.

—The Arkansas Legislature has passed a resolution of thanks to the President for the action taken by him during the recent unpleasantness in that State.

—Gen. Custer is making vigorous preparations at Bismarck, D. T., for an offensive campaign against the Sioux Indians.

—In the General Conference of the Methodist Church South the Committee on Fraternal Relations with the Northern Church reported against the proposed union. They say that the causes of the original disruption still exist, although some of them have been modified by events. The report was adopted by a large majority.

—San Francisco experienced a sharp earthquake shock on the 24th of May.

—The International Centennial Commission and Board of Finance have made a report on the prospects of the enterprise, in which they claim that only \$3,000,000 is needed to guarantee all expenses.

—Representative Clemens, of Illinois, has introduced in Congress a bill designed to apply, among other things, to the exciting conflict in Illinois between the State and Federal courts relative to corporations. The purpose of the bill is to allow States to make regulations against monopolies without interference by the Federal courts on technical grounds.

—The Committee on Impeachment in the lower house of the Arkansas Legislature, on the 25th ult., reported articles of impeachment against State Auditor Wheeler, Chief Justice McClure, Associate Justices Stephenson, Searle and Bennett, Circuit Judge George A. Kingston; William H. Gray, Commissioner of Immigration and State Lands; W. S. Oliver, Sheriff, and J. G. Roland, Clerk, of Pulaski county; Benton Turner, Sheriff, and J. H. Lander, Clerk, of Faulkner county; Sheriff Nickels, of Hot Springs county; and several other officials connected with the late rebellion.

—The question of fraternal relations with the Methodist Episcopal Church North was again before the General Conference of the Southern Methodists at Louisville on the 27th May, and the following preamble and resolutions were adopted by nearly a unanimous vote:

WHEREAS, The discussion and votes of this Conference on the subject of fraternal relations with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and its cognate subjects, present the appearance of essential differences which do not exist; therefore,

Resolved, That upon the subject of fraternal relations with the Methodist Episcopal Church, upon a proper basis, this Conference is a unit.

Resolved, That we are also a unit upon the propriety of appointing a commission empowered to meet a like commission from the Methodist Episcopal Church, to settle all difficulty between us, and that such settlement is essential to a complete fraternity.

Resolved, That the only points of difference between us on this subject are the best methods of accomplishing this desired end.

The Conference has adjourned to meet at Atlanta, Ga., in 1878.

—A Washington dispatch announces that the Committee on Railways and Canals of the House of Representatives have decided to recommend no bills to the House granting charters to railroads or water routes unless the application for the same are supported by the wealth and indorsement of the people living along the proposed line, to a sufficient extent to warrant the belief that they will be taken up and pushed to completion. No charters will be issued to any bogus company to sell out to other parties.

—The Detroit Board of Trade is in favor of reviving the Reciprocity Treaty with Canada.

—Congress has passed the bill to revise and consolidate the statutes of the United States in force on Dec. 1, 1873. This concludes one of the most important works undertaken since the formation of the Government. The laws passed by Congress have been revised and so consolidated as to occupy but two instead of 17 volumes.

—The District of Columbia investigation closed its evidence on the 27th ult., and will at once go to work and make up at least a preliminary report. The testimony and documents are so voluminous—the evidence alone making nearly three thousand printed pages—that it has been found quite impossible for the committee to examine all of it in the remaining four weeks of Congress. They will, however, be able to submit enough for the prompt action of Congress.

—Commander Delknap, of the United States navy, has submitted to the Department in Washington an interesting report of deep-sea soundings in the Pacific ocean made by him for the purpose of ascertaining the most favorable route for an ocean telegraph between Japan and San Francisco. The greatest depth reached was 3,287 fathoms. It is the opinion of scientific men concerned in the survey that a continuous range of submarine mountains extends from Japan to the Sandwich Islands. Six peaks, ranging from 7,000 to 12,600 feet in height, were measured.

—It is estimated that 3,000,000 cubic yards of levee will be required in Louisiana to protect that State from another overflow, and the assistance of Congress will be invoked in consequence.

—The Superintendent of Public Instruction for Tennessee has issued a circular to County Superintendents and Public School Directors throughout the State, in which he announces that "the Civil Rights bill pending before Congress is in conflict with the law of Tennessee under which the public school system of the State is organized," and also "in conflict with the Constitution," in view of which he recommends that no contracts or engagements be made with teachers until the fate of the bill is determined.

—The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, in session at St. Louis, has voted unanimously in favor of union with the Old-School Synod of Missouri.

CRIME AND CRIMINALS.

—The County Commissioners of Barnwell county, S. C., have been indicted for malfeasance in office.

—Two prisoners tried to escape from the State prison at Stillwater, Minn., recently, by crawling through a sewer leading from the vault. They had crawled 500 feet through filth indescribable.

FIRES AND CASUALTIES.

—A dispatch from the scene of the Mill river disaster says: "The last two bodies have been found, and the total loss of life is now known to be 147. Some idea may be formed of the terrible force of the rushing stream of death by the statement that the fissure in the ruined barrier shows that the flood must have started with a volume 175 feet wide and 35 feet deep."

—The town of Independence, Iowa, was visited by a disastrous conflagration on the 15th of May. Forty-five stores and business houses, including one bank, two hotels, and the printing offices of the *Conservative* and *Bulletin*, were swept away. The loss is estimated at \$500,000; insured for about \$250,000.

—Central City, Colorado, was recently visited by a hurricane of fire that almost blotted it from existence.

—The Mayor of New Orleans urgently appeals for further aid for the Louisiana sufferers by the Mississippi overflow; 45,000 people are dependent upon charity, and the Mayor says a million dollars more is needed.

—The loss by the great fires in Independence, Iowa, and Central City, Col., amounts to about half a million of dollars in each instance. The loss in Independence is half covered by insurance; in Central City about one-third is so covered.

—St. Louis was visited, a few days ago, by a terrific tornado of wind, rain and hail. Many houses were unroofed and several steamboats partially wrecked. Estimated loss, \$150,000.

—The extensive mills of the Southern Bagging Company, at St. Louis, have been destroyed by fire. Loss about \$149,000.

RAILROAD INTELLIGENCE.

—In Madison, Wis., three suits have been brought against officers of the Chicago and Northwestern and Chicago and St. Paul Railroad Companies, and the officers arrested and released on bail.

—The first case against the Chicago and Alton railroad for violation of the Railroad law has been tried at Springfield, Ill. The jury brought in a verdict of \$3,000 against the company.

—The Baltimore and Ohio railroad has commenced running a fast freight line westward from Baltimore, and has made close connections with other roads.

—The Attorney-General of Wisconsin has prepared and published an elaborate opinion on the Railway law of the State, in which he sustains the law and the Governor.

POLITICAL.

—The Legislature of Arkansas, by a vote of 47 to 9, passed resolutions requesting Senators Clayton and Dorsey to resign, and, in case of their neglect, asking the Senate to expel them.

—A Washington dispatch of the 26th ult. says: "At a meeting of the citizens of Michigan in this city last night, it was resolved to bring forward the Hon. James V. Campbell, one of the Justices of the Michigan Supreme Court, as a candidate for the United States Senate."

—Appointments by the President: F. A. Blades, Appraiser of Merchandise at Detroit, Mich.; William Cooper Howell, of Ohio, Consul at Quebec; Harry H. Davis, of Pennsylvania, Consul at Valencia, Spain; Abram G. Hoyt, Receiver of Public Moneys at Santa Fe,

N. M.; Henry M. Cooper, Receiver of Public Moneys at Little Rock, Ark.; James B. McKean, Chief-Justice of the Supreme Court of Utah Territory.

FOREIGN.

—All efforts to form a new Ministry having failed, President MacMahon took the matter in hand, and the following is the result: Gen. De Cissey, Minister of War and Vice-President of the Council; Duke De Cazex, Foreign Affairs; M. De Fourton, Interior; M. Pierre Magne, Finance; M. Eugene Caillaud, Public Works; M. Louis Grivart, Commerce; Viscount De Cumont, Public Instruction; M. Adrien Tailhand, Minister of Justice; Marquis De Montagnac, Minister of Marine.

—The Parliamentary elections in Durham, England, and Galway, Ireland, have been annulled on account of bribery by the former and intimidation of voters in the latter.

—Oppenheimer & Schrader, merchants, have failed; liabilities estimated at \$3,000,000.

—The President of Hayti has resigned and turned over the Government to Gen. Domingue, who is supported by the army.

—In Cuba the rebellion still continues, and even the most loyal Spaniards begin to complain of the condition of affairs in the island.

—Jose Maria Bonilla and his wife were recently burned alive in the State of Sinaloa, Mexico, for the alleged crime of sorcery.

—Princess Alice, wife of Louis of Hesse-Darmstadt and daughter of Queen Victoria, has been safely delivered of a daughter—the fourth child since her marriage in 1867.

—After an interruption of several years, the diplomatic intercourse between Spain and Mexico has been resumed. Since the invasion of Mexico by the combined forces of Spain, France and England in 1846, no diplomatic relations have been maintained between Spain and Mexico until the present time.

—Several Madrid newspapers accuse Caleb Cushing, the American Minister, of being present at a banquet given by the Opposition Deputies, including Figueras and Castelar. The editors suggest that Mr. Cushing must be ignorant of European diplomatic usages, as well as of the significance of certain names.

—The Italian Government has been again defeated in the Chamber of Deputies.

—It is announced that the Pope is convalescent.

—It now turns out that it was an American actress to whom the son of the Grand Duke Constantine of Russia gave his mother's diamonds a short time ago, and for which he was arrested.

—Dispatches from Calcutta state that the distress from famine in India is increasing. Nearly 3,000,000 people are dependent upon the Government for food.

—A Paris telegram confirms the announcement of the intended candidacy of a German Prince for the throne of Spain.

—The Bonapartists are active in France. They will bring forward their strongest candidates and make a vigorous campaign in the various departments at the next elections.

TEXT OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS BILL.

Following is the full text of the Civil Rights bill as it passed the Senate:

SECTION 1. That all citizens and other persons within the jurisdiction of the United States shall be entitled to the full and equal enjoyment of the accommodations, advantages, facilities and privileges of inns, public conveyances on land or water, theaters and other places of public amusement, and also of the common schools and public institutions of learning or benevolence supported in whole or in part by general taxation, and of cemeteries so supported, also the institutions known as agricultural colleges, endowed by the United States, subject only to the conditions and limitations established by law, and applicable alike to citizens of every race and color, regardless of any previous condition of servitude.

SEC. 2. That any person who shall violate the foregoing section by denying to any person entitled to its benefits, except for reasons applicable by law to citizens of every race and color, regardless of any previous condition of servitude, the full enjoyment of any accommodations, advantages, facilities, or privileges in said section enumerated, or inciting such denial, shall, for every such offense, forfeit and pay the sum of \$500 to the person aggrieved thereby, to be recovered in action on the case, with full costs, and shall also, for every such offense, be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined not more than \$1,000 or shall be imprisoned not more than one year; Provided, that the party aggrieved shall not recover more than one penalty, and when the offense is a refusal of burial, the penalty may be recovered by the heirs-at-law of the person whose body has been refused burial;

Provided further, that all persons may elect to sue for the penalty aforesaid, or to proceed under their rights at common law and the State statutes, and having so elected to proceed in the one mode or the other, their right to proceed in the other jurisdiction shall be barred; but this proviso shall not apply to criminal proceedings either under this act or the criminal law of any State.

SEC. 3. That the District and Circuit Courts of the United States shall have, exclusively of the courts of the several States, cognizance of all crimes and offenses against, and violations of, the provisions of, this act, and actions for penalty given by the preceding section may be prosecuted in the Territorial, District, or Circuit Courts of the United States wherever the defendant may be found, without regard to the other party; and the District Attorneys, Marshals, and Deputy Marshals of the United States, and the Commissioners appointed by the Circuit and Territorial Courts of the United States, with the power of arresting, and imprisoning, and bailing offenders against the laws of the United States, are hereby specially authorized and required to institute proceedings against every person who shall violate the provisions of this act, and cause him to be arrested, and imprisoned or bailed as the case may be, for trial before such court of the United States or Territorial Court as by law has cognizance of the offense, except in respect of the right of action accruing to the person aggrieved; and such District Attorney shall cause such proceedings to be prosecuted to their termination as in other cases; Provided, that nothing contained in this section shall be construed to deny or defeat any right of civil action accruing to any person by reason of this act or otherwise.

SEC. 4. That no citizen, providing he has all other qualifications which are or may be prescribed by law, shall be qualified for service as a grand or petit juror in any court of the United States, or of any State, on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude, and any officer or other person charged with any duty in the selection or summoning jurors, who shall exclude or fail to summon

any citizen for the cause aforesaid, shall be deemed guilty of misdemeanor, and fined not more than \$1,000.

SEC. 5. That all causes arising under the provisions of this act in the courts of the United States shall be reviewable by the Supreme Court of the United States, without regard to the sum in controversy, under the same provisions and regulations as are now provided by law for the review of other causes in said court.

CONGRESSIONAL SUMMARY.

FRIDAY, May 22.—Senate.—Logan, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported favorably on the House bill authorizing the President to issue army rations and clothing to the destitute people on the Tombigbee and Alabama rivers. Passed. A bill was passed appropriating \$62,968 for the relief of Wm. R. Thomas, late Collector at Philadelphia, the amount having been embezzled by said collector. The Senate resumed consideration of the Civil Rights bill.

House.—Lawrence, from the Committee on War Claims, reported a bill making appropriations for the payment of the claims reported and allowed by the Commissioners of Claims under the act of March 3, 1871. Passed. A number of private bills were passed, among them one for the relief of widows and orphans, etc., of soldiers murdered by the guerrillas at Centuria, Mo., in 1864.

SATURDAY, May 23.—Senate.—The session of Friday night was continued until 6:15 o'clock Saturday morning, the Civil Rights bill being under discussion in Committee of the Whole. Sargent's amendment that the organization of separate schools be not prevented, providing each class of schools received equal allowances from the school fund, was lost—yeas, 21; nays, 25. Gordon's amendment to strike out of the first section the clause granting to colored people equal privileges in public schools, etc., was rejected—yeas, 14; nays, 30. After one or two unimportant alterations, the bill was reported to the Senate, with the amendments, read a third time, and then passed—yeas, 29; nays, 16.

House.—A bill allowing a bounty of 8.33% to soldiers in the late war, and another providing for the gradual reduction of the army to nine cavalry regiments, four artillery regiments and twenty infantry regiments, were referred to the Committee of the Whole.

MONDAY, May 25.—Senate.—Conkling presented the memorial of Mrs. Bella A. Lockwood, asking the passage of an act declaring that no woman, otherwise qualified, shall be debarred from practice in the courts of the United States on account of sex or color. Referred to the Judiciary Committee. Stewart introduced a constitutional amendment providing for compulsory education. Referred to the Committee on Judiciary. Sargent introduced a bill to prevent hazing at Naval Academy. Referred. Sargent, from the Committee of Conference on the Naval Appropriation bill called up the report of that committee, and it was agreed to. The Chair laid before the Senate a resolution of the House announcing the death of David B. Mellish, and inviting the Senate to attend his funeral in the hall of the House Tuesday, at 4 p. m. The invitation was accepted, and the Senate adjourned.

House.—Bills introduced: By Spear, providing that a residence of three years shall be sufficient to entitle an alien, being a free white person, to become a citizen, declaration to be made one year before admission; by Sheldon, to refund the cotton tax; by Crossland, to repeal the law which suspended payment to loyal masters for slaves drafted and received as volunteers in military service; by Clemens, declaring corporations doing business in any State subject to the State courts of that State; by Harris, restoring to the pension rolls the pensioners of the Mexican war struck off for disloyalty. Treman announced the death of Representative Mellish, and appropriate remarks were made by Wood, Kelley, Lawrence, G. F. Hoar and Cox. A committee was appointed to conduct the funeral arrangements.

TUESDAY, May 26.—Senate.—A communication from Rives & Bailey, making charges against the official conduct of Congressional Printer Clapp, was referred to the Printing Committee for investigation. The bill to provide for the better protection of the frontier settlements of Texas was passed. Ramsey introduced a bill to provide for the prepayment of postage on printed matter. The Deficiency bill, and the Centennial bill, with a proviso that the United States shall not be liable for any expense attending the Exposition, were passed.

House.—In the House, nearly the whole day was consumed in the discussion of the report of the Committee of Ways and Means in the Sanborn contracts, and in considering the Amendatory Tariff bill.

WEDNESDAY, May 27.—Senate.—Bills were passed to prevent hazing at the naval academies; to amend the act reducing internal taxation and duties on imports; and to revise and consolidate the statutes of the United States in force Dec. 1, 1873. Pending the discussion of the Alabama contested election case the Senate went into executive session, and soon after adjourned.

House.—The following bills were passed: Repealing the law on which the Sanborn contracts were based; removing the political disabilities of Raphael Semmes; providing that the day's work of conductors and drivers on streetcars in the District of Columbia shall not exceed ten hours; investing general courts-martial with jurisdiction, concurrent with that of State or Territorial courts, of the crimes of murder, manslaughter, mayhem, rape, arson, robbery, burglary, and assault and battery; defining the civil rights of colored people in the Choctaw Nation; restricting the choice of juries in the United States courts to persons who can read and write the English language. A number of petitions asking for woman suffrage, and the petition that the 12th of April (Abraham Lincoln's birthday) be declared a national holiday, were reported adversely from the committees to which they were referred. A resolution was passed providing for the appointment of a committee of five to investigate the condition of affairs in Arkansas. Tremaine, from the Judiciary Committee, reported back Senate amendment to the bill to repeal the Bankrupt law, and moved non-concurrence and the appointment of a conference committee. No action was taken on the motion. An evening session was held to consider the Tariff bill.

THURSDAY, May 28.—Senate.—Bills were passed setting apart a portion of Mackinac Island as a national park, and donating the site of Fort Houston, near Nashville, Tenn., to Fisk University for educational purposes. The Alabama contested election case of Sykes vs. Spencer was decided in favor of the latter by a strict party vote. The bill to establish the Territory of Pembina was rejected—19 to 29. Morton, from the Committee on Privileges and Elections, reported back the resolution of the Senate, March 10, 1873, instructing the committee to examine and report the best mode of electing President and Vice-President, with a lengthy written report, which was ordered printed and placed on the calendar.

House.—The Senate amendments to the bill to legalize a pontoon railway bridge across the Mississippi at Prairie du Chien were concurred in. A bill for the relief of the widow of Capt. Hall, of the Polar, was passed. A vote was taken on the new Currency bill, as amended by the Banking and Currency Committee, and it was rejected by 112 to 117. The Senate substitute without amendment was also defeated, and the whole matter was sent to a conference committee. The bill for the reduction of the army was discussed and laid over.

The Speaker appointed as the Special Committee on Arkansas Affairs, Poland, Ward (Ill.), Woodford, Sawyer (O.), and Sloan. The House held an evening session, which was devoted solely to the consideration, in Committee of the Whole, of the Tariff bill.

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THE NORTHAMPTON CALAMITY.

THE DAM CONTRACTORS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE TERRIBLE DISASTER.

NORTHAMPTON, Mass., May 20.—When the Legislative Committee visited the reservoir, the breaking of which, on Saturday, was attended with such terrible consequences, everybody descended to the gap, and a careful examination was made of the bottom, the walls, filling and surroundings. The contractor, Bassett, taking a copy of the specifications contained in the original contract under which the dam had been built, called the attention of the members of the committee to what he termed the evidence of their fulfillment, and the consequent exoneration from blame of himself and those who acted for him. Col. Wilson, of Boston, the engineer who constructed the Hartford reservoir, twenty years ago, and who had accompanied the committee as an expert, remarked: "This dam was not built according to the specifications of that paper in your hand." The Colonel then proceeded to point out that the specifications had called for the building of a foundation wall at least three feet below the bottom of the reservoir, whereas it was only built upon that bottom, between which and the wall the water was found to pass easily, created a leak, and eventually spread the latter against the embankment protector. This wall was four feet narrower than the contract specified that it should have been. "In short," said Col. Wilson, "the specifications have been entirely disregarded, and the accident was inevitable. The only wonder is that it did not occur before. The terrible neglect and gross ignorance displayed in the construction of the dam was criminal, and its recent evil consequences, murder." In talking of the event later, Col. Wilson said that he could not regard it as an accident, because the dam could not hold any body of water in, as the bottom under the wall, was slowly but surely washed away daily.

An incident of extraordinary canine affection has just come to light in connection with the awful calamity. Col. Joel Hayden, one of the sons of the late Lieut.-Gov. Hayden, has a dog of the St. Bernard kind. He has, for a long time, been the village favorite, and the pet of the school-children. Ira Bryant, the father of Mrs. Col. Hayden, over sixty years of age, was a great favorite with the dog. Bryant was lost in the disaster. On Sunday afternoon the dog started out and followed the searchers for bodies in the meadow-lands. He was then seen on Miller's flats, pawing in the sand, and when he was visited, it was found that he had dug quite deep in the dirt, the excavation in which discovered the lower portion of a man's limbs. The next half hour revealed the form of Bryant. Diligent search had been made for these remains, but it seemed hardly possible that any human being could have found the imbedded corpse.

A SHARP RETORT.

At a Western eating-house, the other evening, a young and fully-mustached dandy was seated at the table at rather a late hour, when the waiter, according to custom, after the work of the day was over, came in and took a seat directly opposite. The dandy tipped back his chair, and, gazing at the waiter, exclaimed, "Fellah, do the servants mix up with gentlemen in this house?" "No, sir," was the reply. "Are you not the waiter?" "Yes, sir." "Well, a waiter is as much a servant as the scullery-maid." "True," replied the waiter, "but I did not enter the room until I looked in and saw that there was not a gentleman at the table!" Here the conversation ended.

HOUSEHOLD PETS.

"Down with pets!" says the cynic—an opinion with which all kindly-folk will disagree. Pets should always be tolerated, for they have their proper place in every household. If they furnish to the young imaginary play-fellows, if they help older people to forget the cares of the present and soften in them the asperities of this hard world's life—if, above all, they can be made morally significant, let us not condemn them as unworthy of our regard. Frolicsome kittens, sweet singing-birds, brave old dogs—and shall we not add, merry-hearted children—have brightened and gladdened and sweetened this world to many.